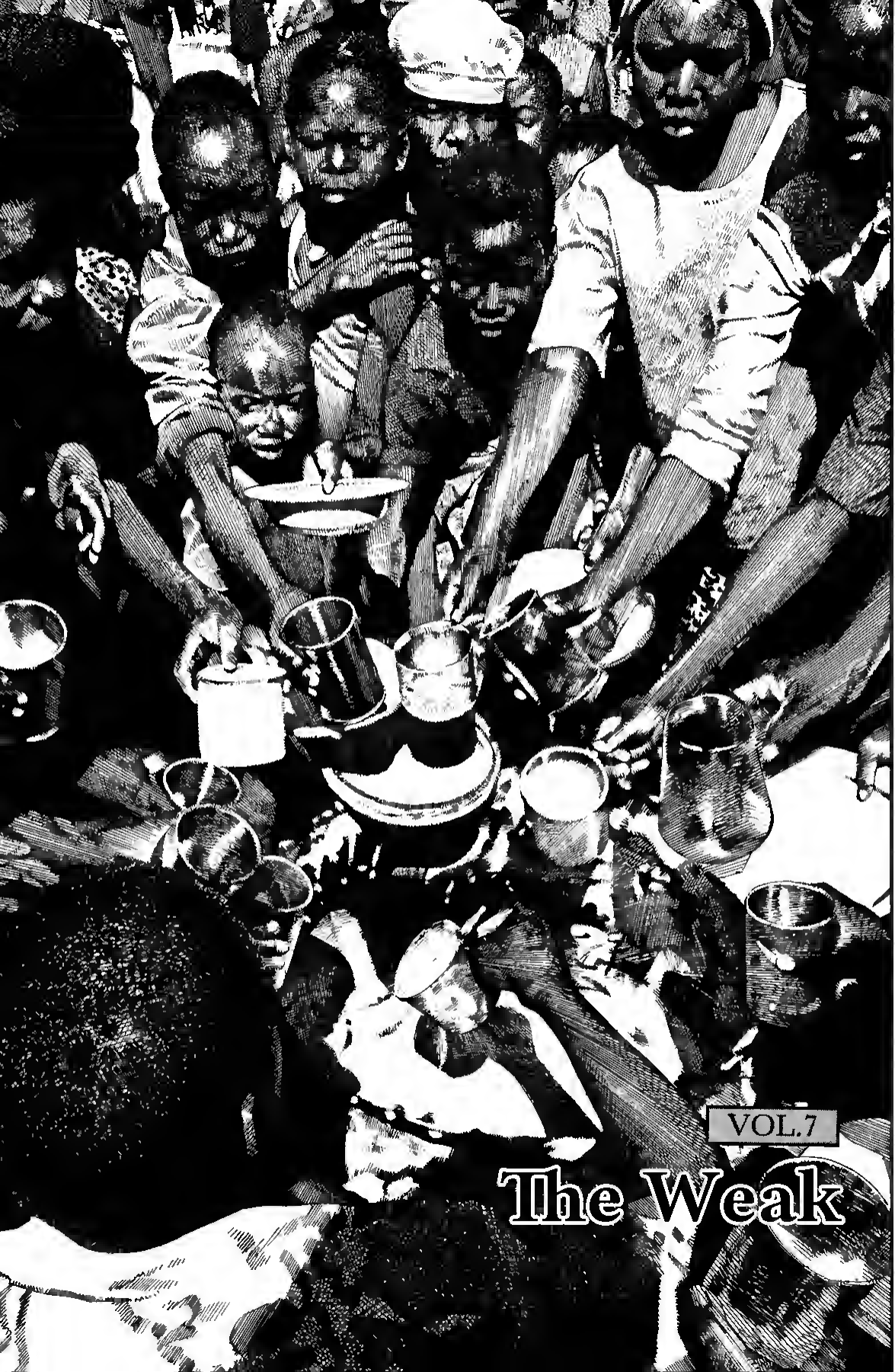
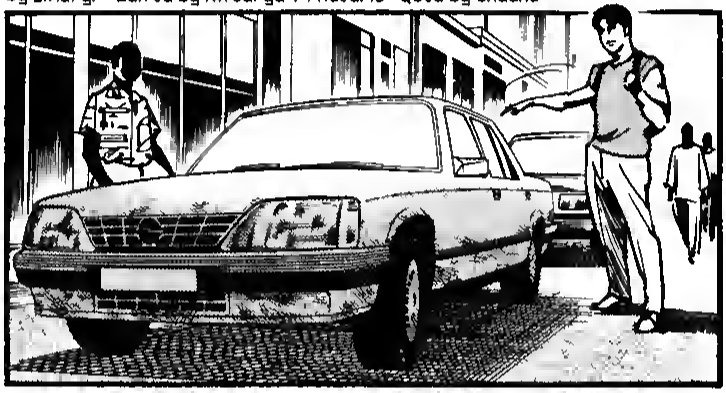

VOL.7
The Weak

Scanned + Typeset by GGpX Translated by zindryr Edited by Nitouryu + Phaedris QCed by Chuuka



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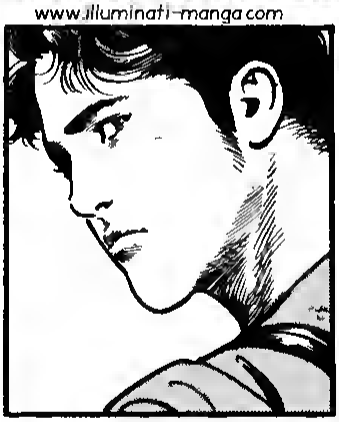
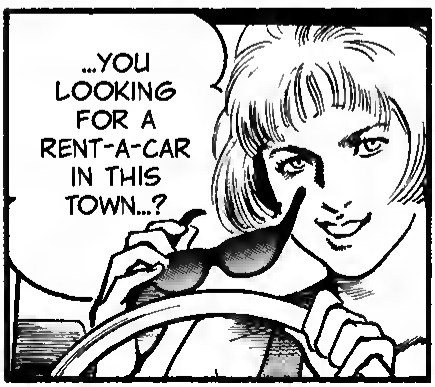
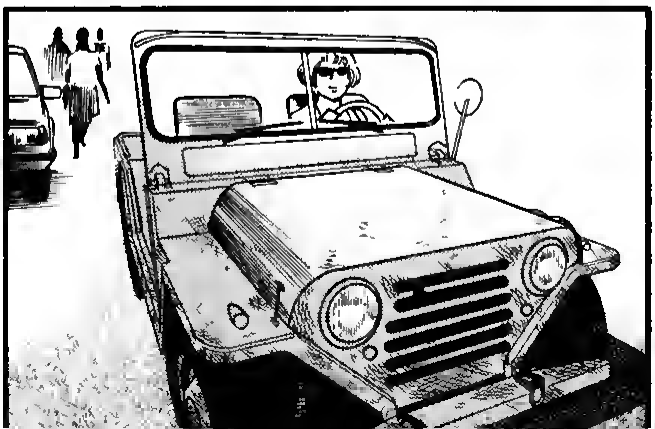


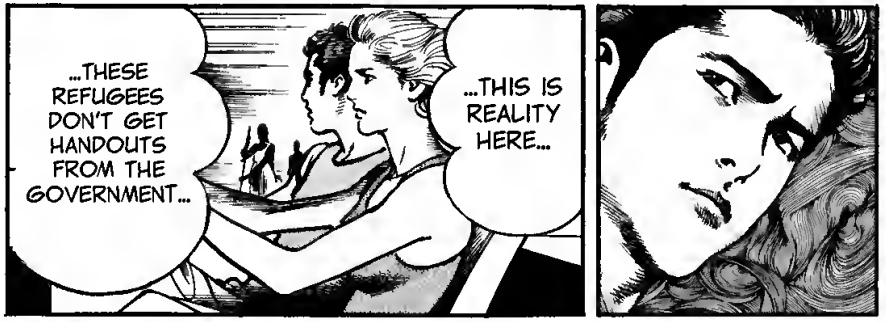




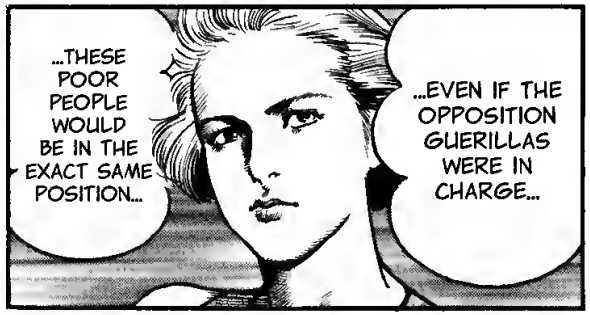
YOU COMING WITH...?
HOP IN!
...MY NAME'S FAURO...
...AND YOU'RE NIIMI, I BELIEVE...
...BETTER THAN GOING ALONE, DON'T YOU THINK...?
...THE LEAST I CAN DO IS SHOW YOU AROUND TOWN...
3

4

5


...THESE REFUGEES DON'T GET HANDOUTS FROM THE GOVERNMENT...
...THIS IS REALITY HERE...

...


...THESE POOR PEOPLE WOULD BE IN THE EXACT SAME POSITION...
...EVEN IF THE OPPOSITION GUERILLAS WERE IN CHARGE...

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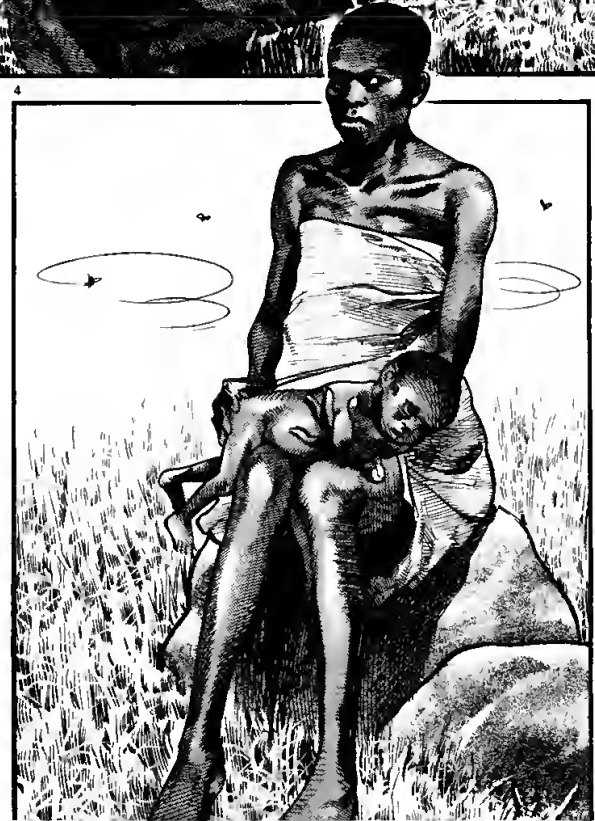

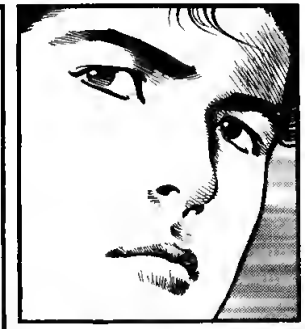

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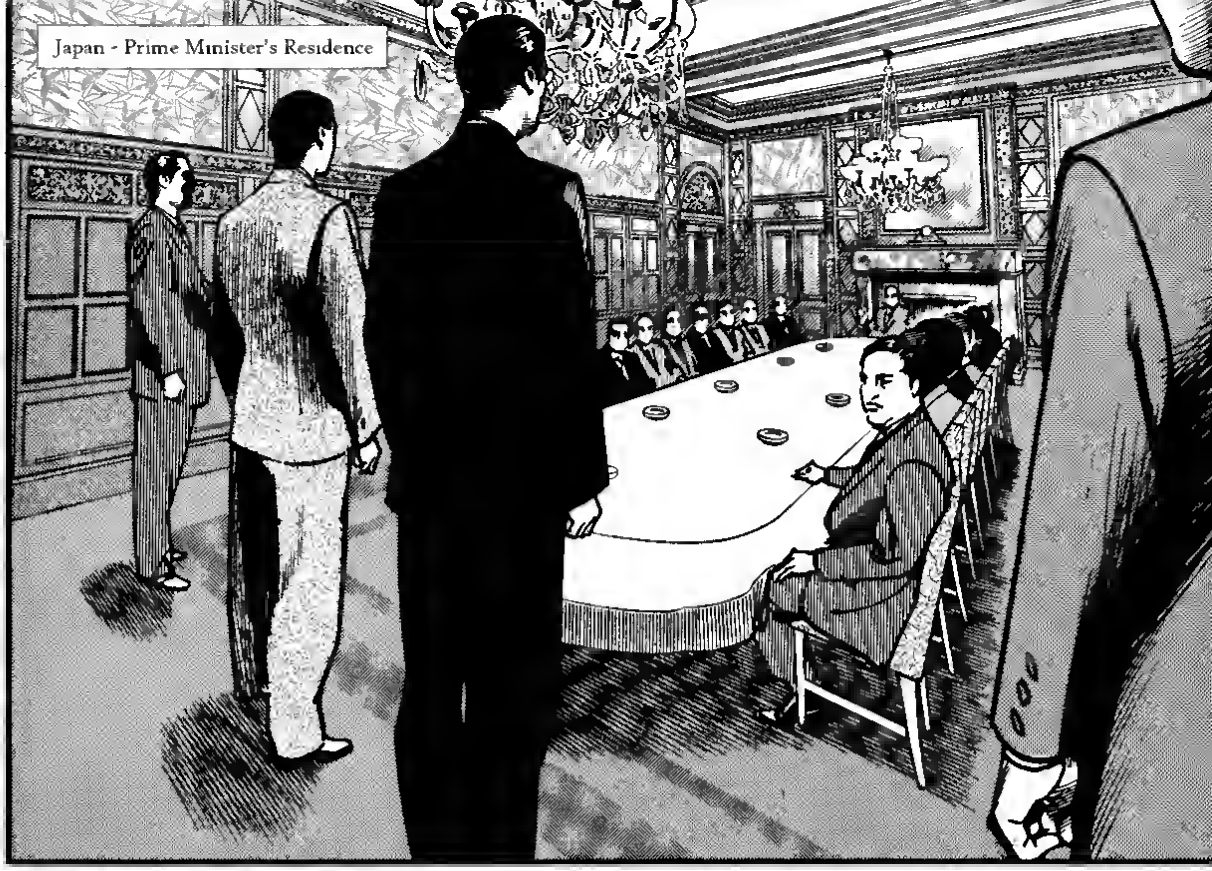
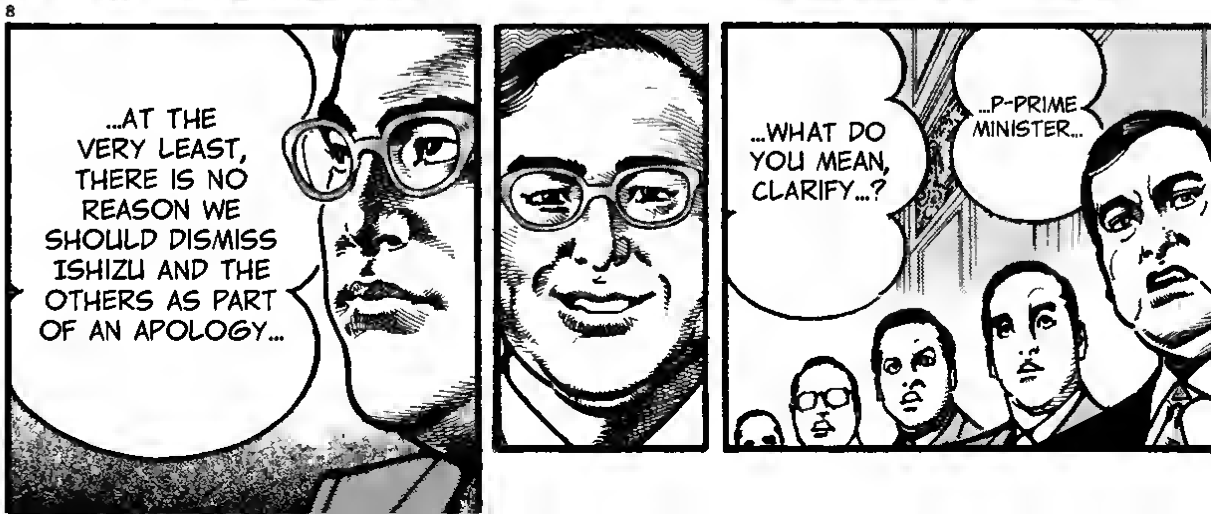
...PERMA-NENT...!?
...WHAT DO YOU THINK THIS COUNTRY... NO, ANY POOR COUNTRY SHOULD DO TO OBTAIN A PERMANENT, GUARANTEED STANDARD OF LIVING...?
...THEY HAVE TO BECOME A STATE IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA...!
...AMERICA DOESN'T NEED BANANGA, THOUGH...
...THERE'S NO NEED TO TAKE IN A POOR COUNTRY WITH NO USE OR VALUE...

...IF AMERICA DID NEED THE COUNTRY, HOWEVER, THEY'D MOBILIZE THEIR ARMY NO MATTER WHAT THE UNITED NATIONS MAY SAY!

...THE TRUTH OF THE MATTER IS, THE WORLD MOVES TO THE BEAT OF AMERICA'S DRUM, WHETHER YOU AGREE WITH THAT OR NOT...
...
...
...IDEAL DREAMS... YOU KNOW...
...A NATION THAT IS ABLE TO STAND ON ITS OWN AFTER BEING CAST OUT FROM BENEATH AMERICA THE GREAT'S UMBRELLA... THAT IS A TRULY INDEPENDENT NATION...
...I KNOW A GROUP OF MEN WHO CAME UP WITH A SIMILAR SCENARIO...

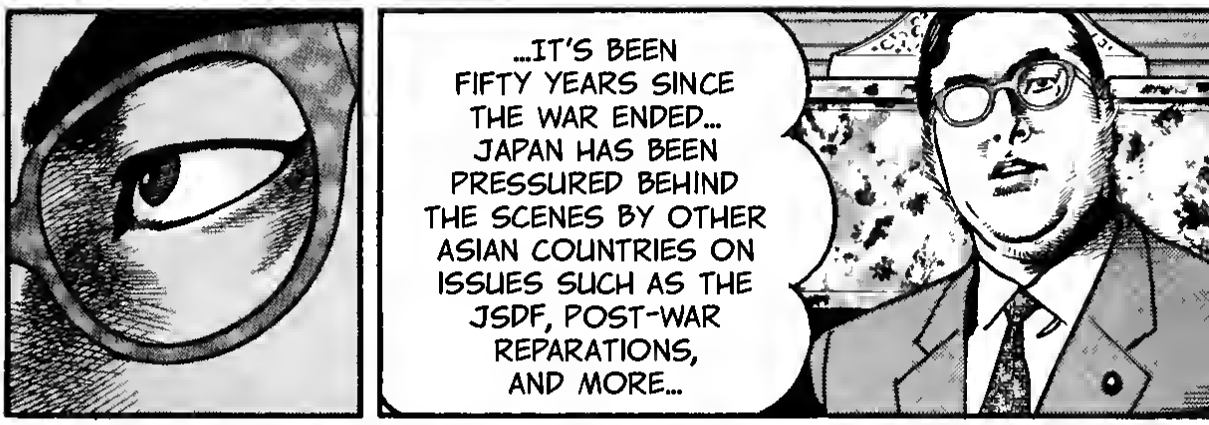

Japan - Prime Minister's Residence

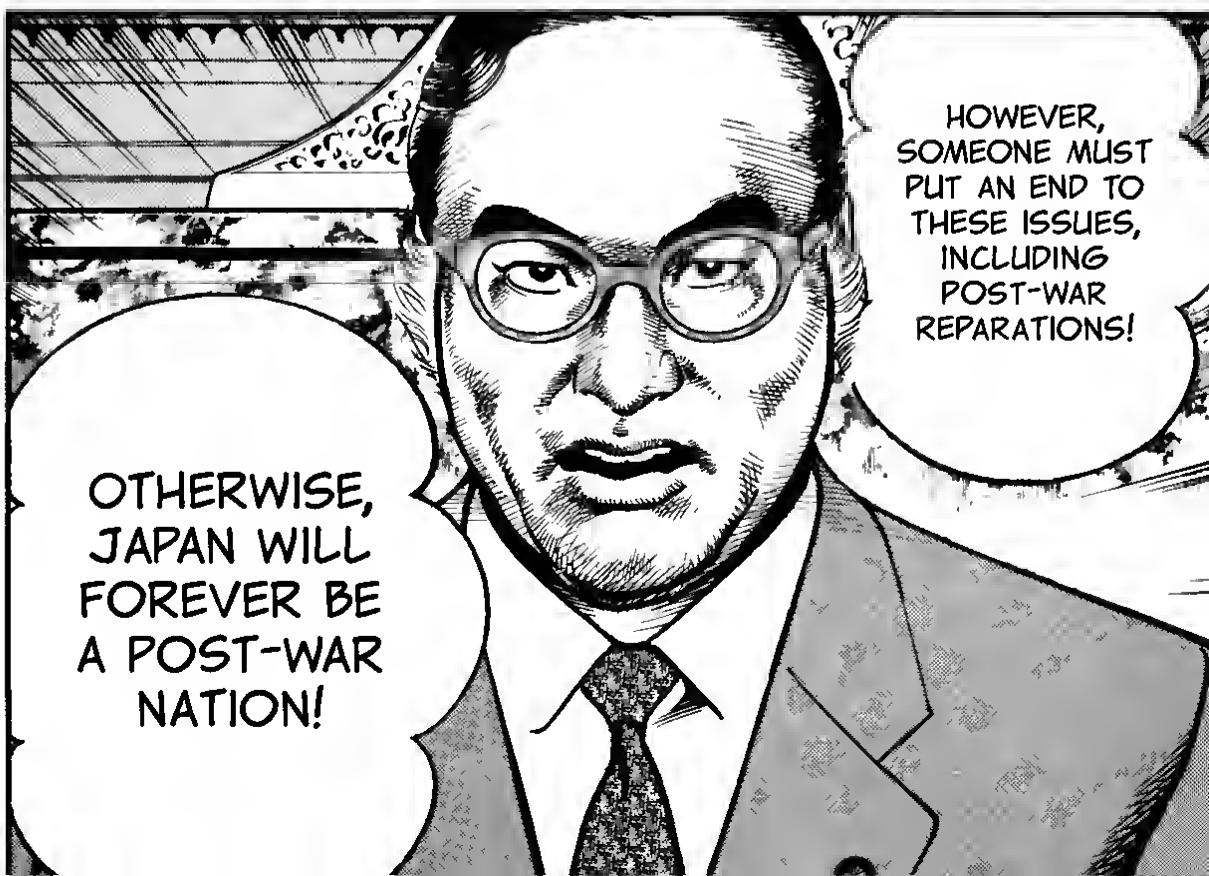
I WILL CLARIFY OUR POSITION DIRECTLY TO THE OTHER ASIAN COUNTRIES!
...UNDER-STOOD...!


...AT THE VERY LEAST, THERE IS NO REASON WE SHOULD DISMISS ISHIZU AND THE OTHERS AS PART OF AN APOLOGY...
...WHAT DO YOU MEAN, CLARIFY...?
...P-PRIME MINISTER...

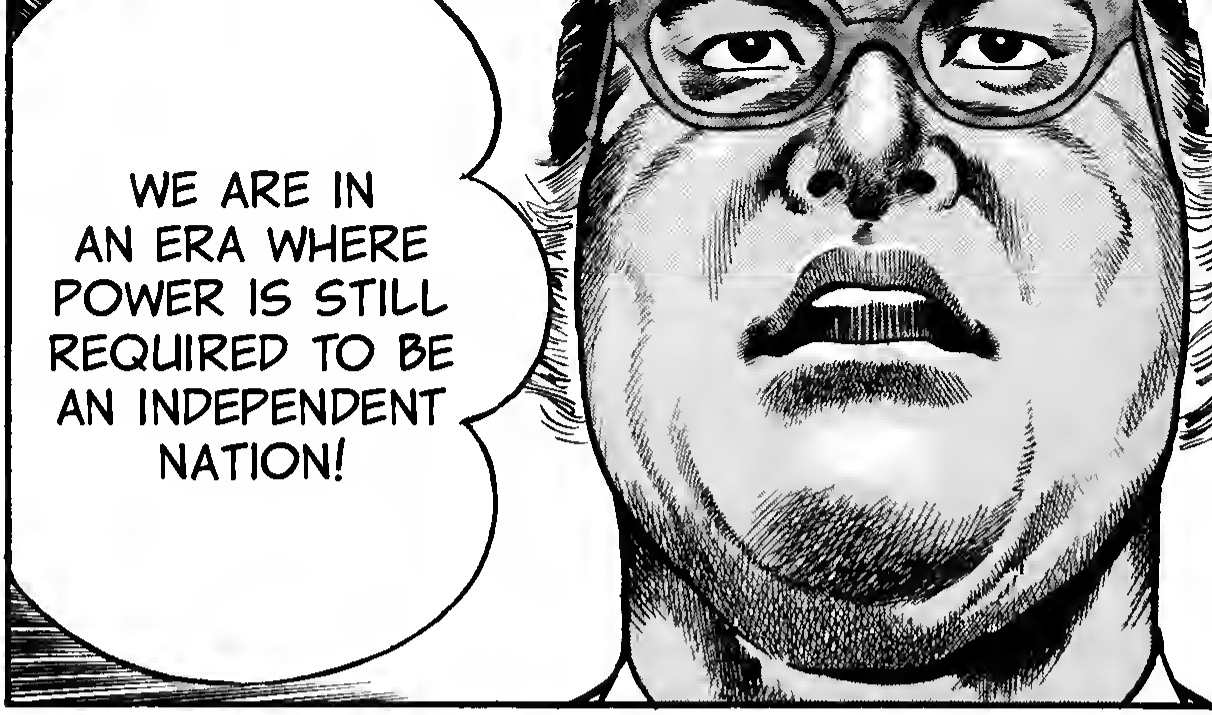
...THE EXISTENCE OF A JAPANESE MILITARY WON'T BE EASILY FORGOTTEN BY THE REST OF ASIA, NO MATTER HOW MUCH WE APOLOGIZE!!
...MILITARY ACTION HAS ALREADY BEEN TAKEN, WE CANNOT UNFIRE A BULLET...
...WE'RE... NOT APOLO-GIZING...!?
...I BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD USE THIS CHANCE TO CLARIFY JAPAN'S POSITION TO THE OTHER ASIAN COUNTRIES AND GET THEM TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE JSDF...
...
...P-PRIME MIN-ISTER...

P-PRIME MINISTER!
WHAT!?

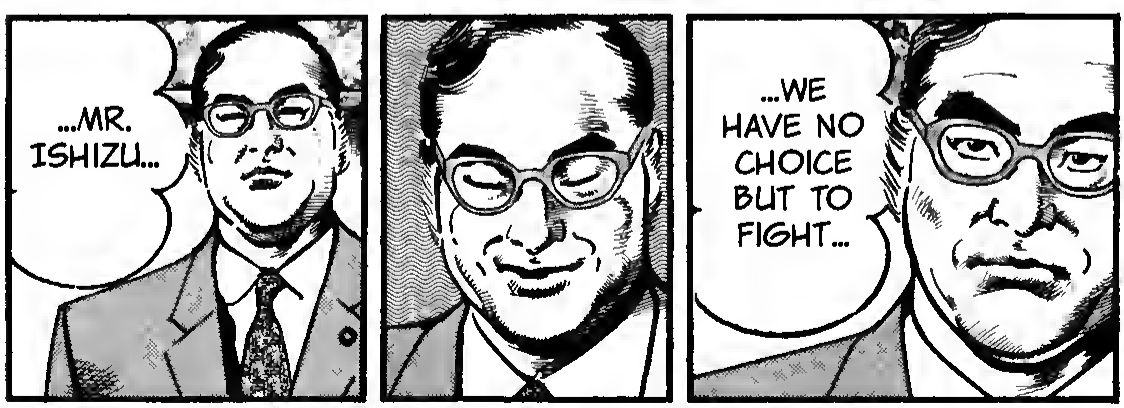

...IT'S BEEN FIFTY YEARS SINCE THE WAR ENDED... JAPAN HAS BEEN PRESSURED BEHIND THE SCENES BY OTHER ASIAN COUNTRIES ON ISSUES SUCH AS THE JSDF, POST-WAR REPARATIONS, AND MORE...

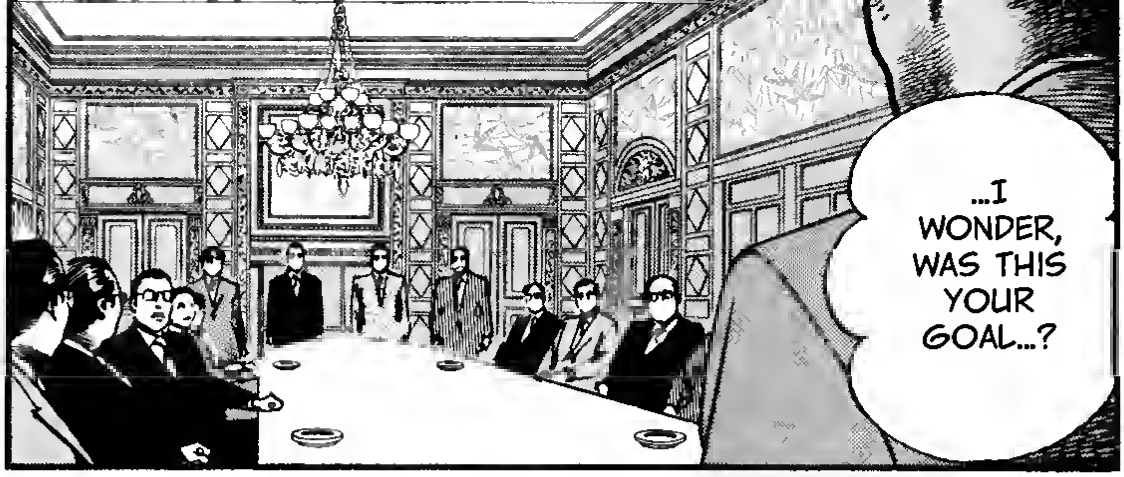

HOWEVER, SOMEONE MUST PUT AN END TO THESE ISSUES, INCLUDING POST-WAR REPARATIONS!
OTHERWISE, JAPAN WILL FOREVER BE A POST-WAR NATION!

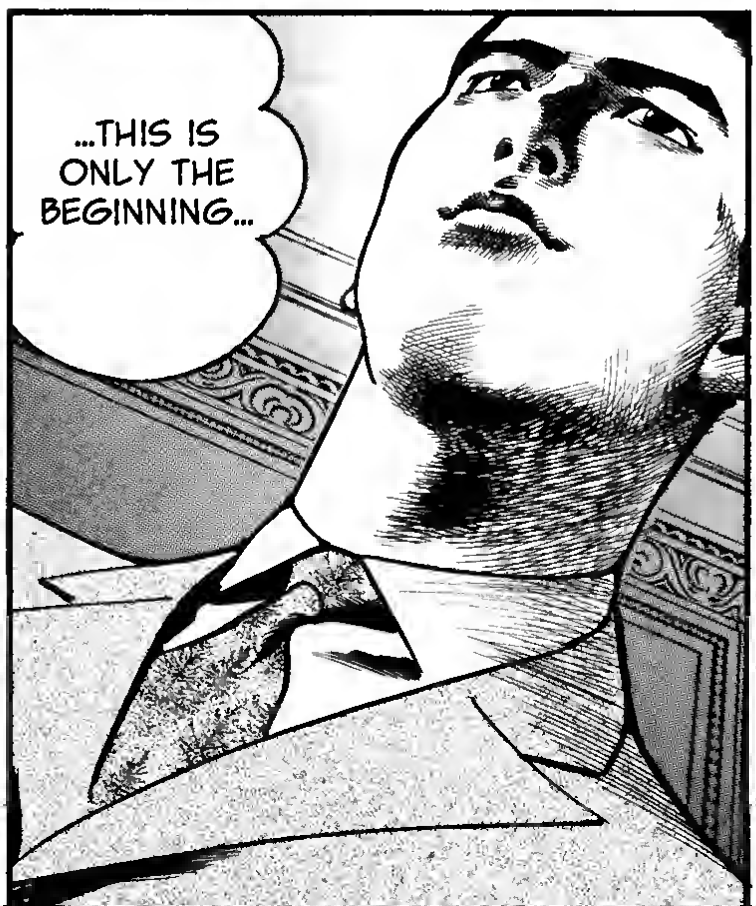
...SURPRISING... OUR PRIME MINISTER HAS MORE BACKBONE THAN WE THOUGHT...
...
...ASIA AND THE REST OF THE WORLD DECIDED THAT EVEN JAPAN NEEDED AN ARMY OF SORTS TO DEFEND ITSELF DUE TO THIS REALITY...
...ON A POLITICAL LEVEL, THIS IS PRE-POSTEROUS...!
...PEACE WITHOUT ARMS, THE LAST DREAM OF HUMANITY... REALITY, HOWEVER, HAS NOT QUITE CAUGHT UP WITH THAT DREAM...

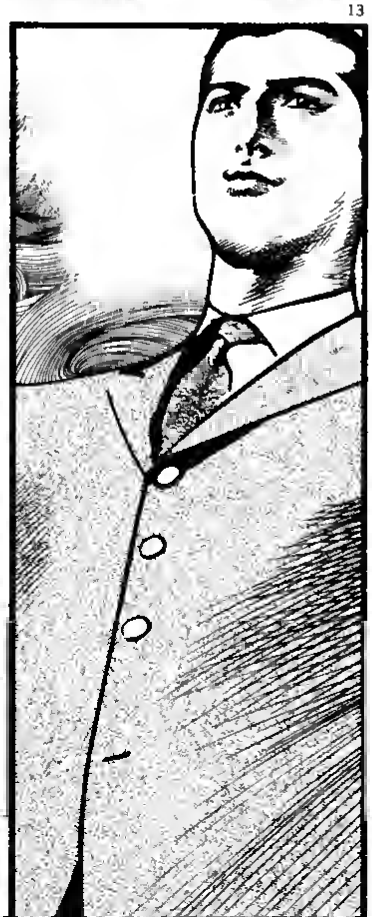

WE ARE IN AN ERA WHERE POWER IS STILL REQUIRED TO BE AN INDEPENDENT NATION!

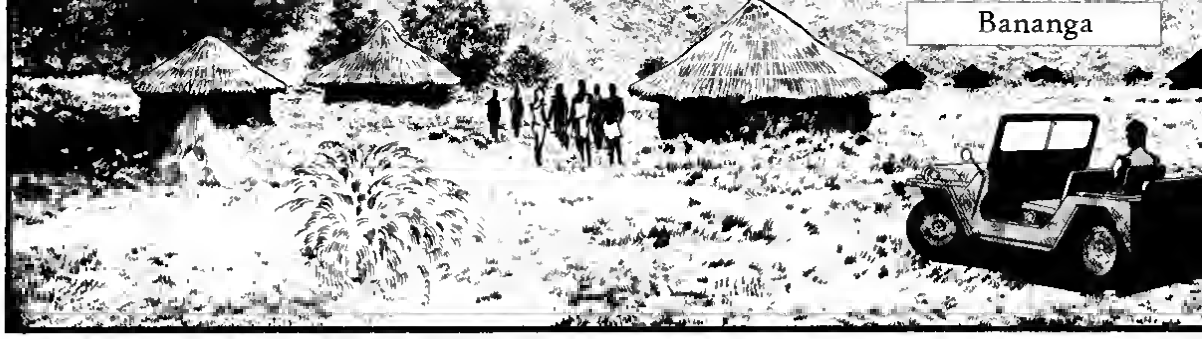
...

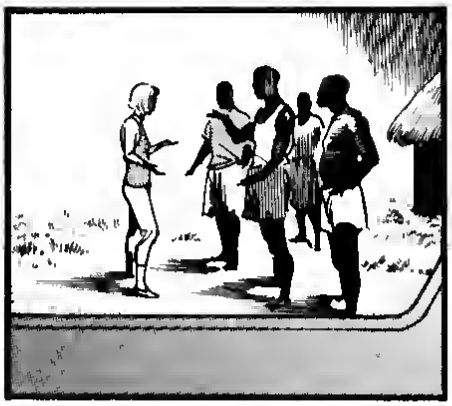

...MR. ISHIZU...
...WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO FIGHT...

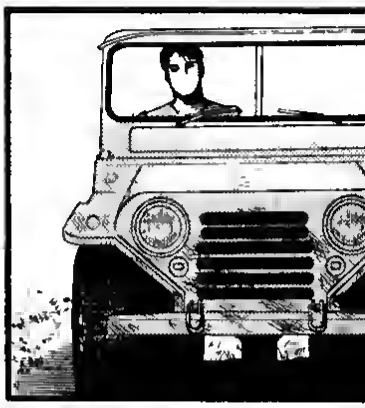

...I WONDER, WAS THIS YOUR GOAL...?

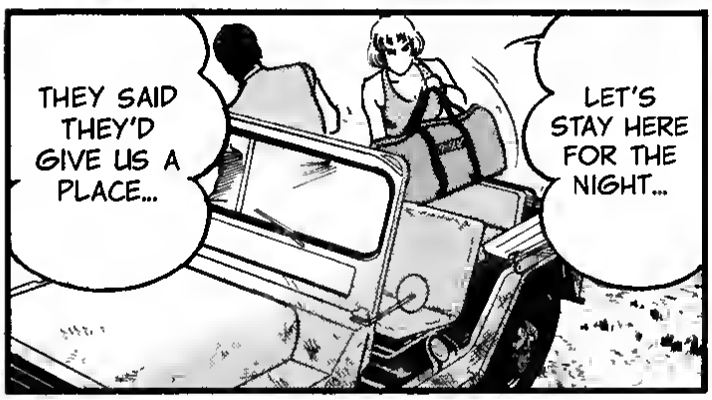

...THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING...



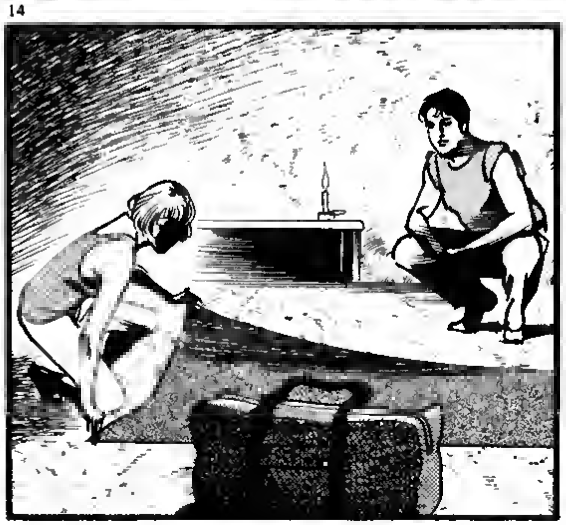


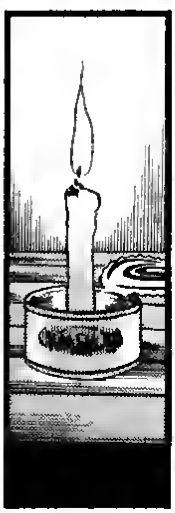




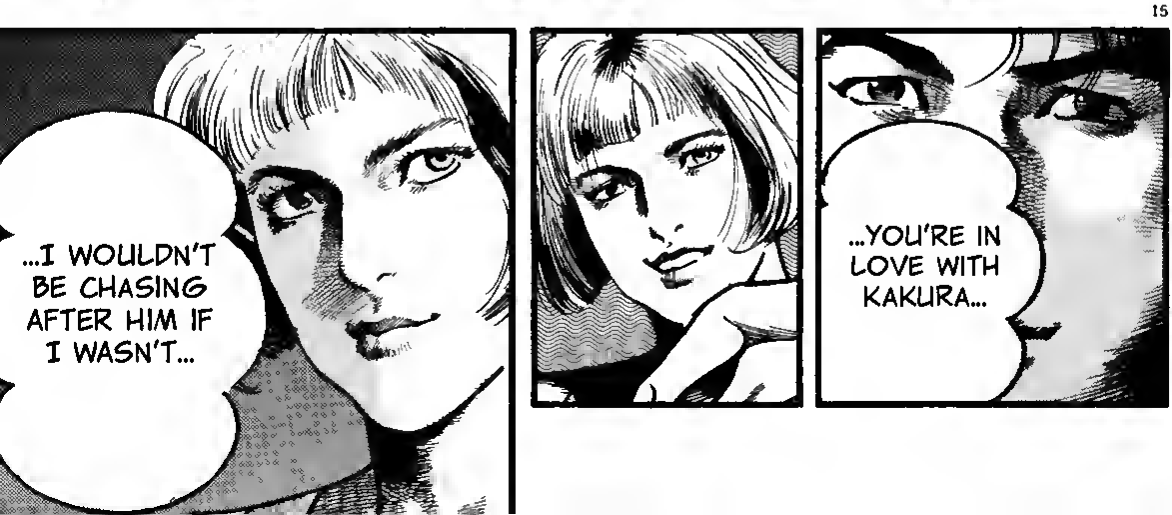

THEY SAID THEY'D GIVE US A PLACE...
LET'S STAY HERE FOR THE NIGHT...

...YEP, THEY'VE BEEN THROUGH HERE...

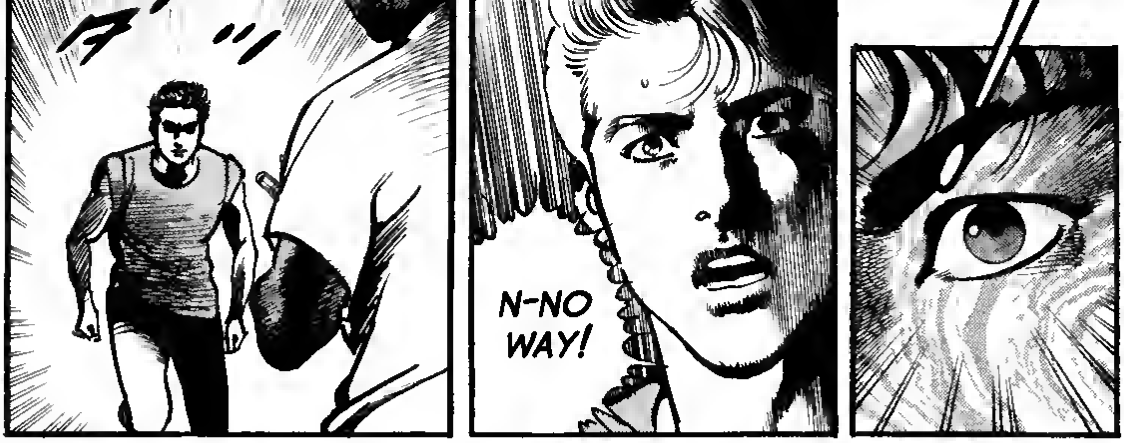


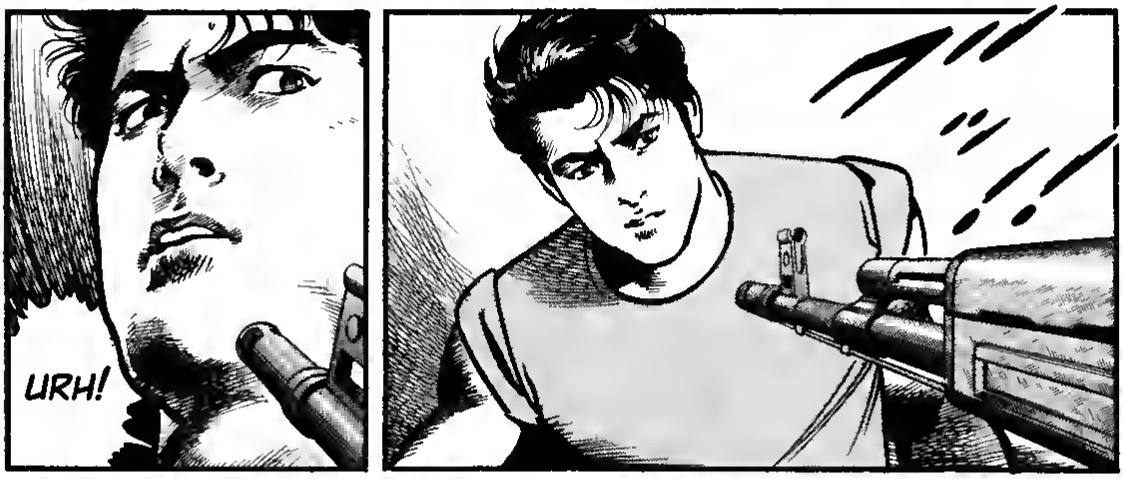


...WHY MOVE FROM FRANCE TO HERE...
...I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND YOU YET...
...A JOURNAL-IST...!?
...I KNOW HOW I MUST LOOK NOW... BUT I USED TO BE A JOURNALIST IN FRANCE...
WANT A DRINK...!?
...
...WE CLICKED, BOTH OF US BEING KIND OF ECCENTRIC, AND I ENDED UP HERE IN BANANGA WITH HIM...
...THEN I MET KAKURA...
...TO BE HONEST, I WASN'T QUALIFIED... JUST GOT BY AS AN ODDITY...


...I WOULDN'T BE CHASING AFTER HIM IF I WASN'T...
...YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH KAKURA...

...DON'T WORRY... THE BOSS OF THE VILLAGE IS CALLING FOR ME...
...W-WHAT FOR...!?





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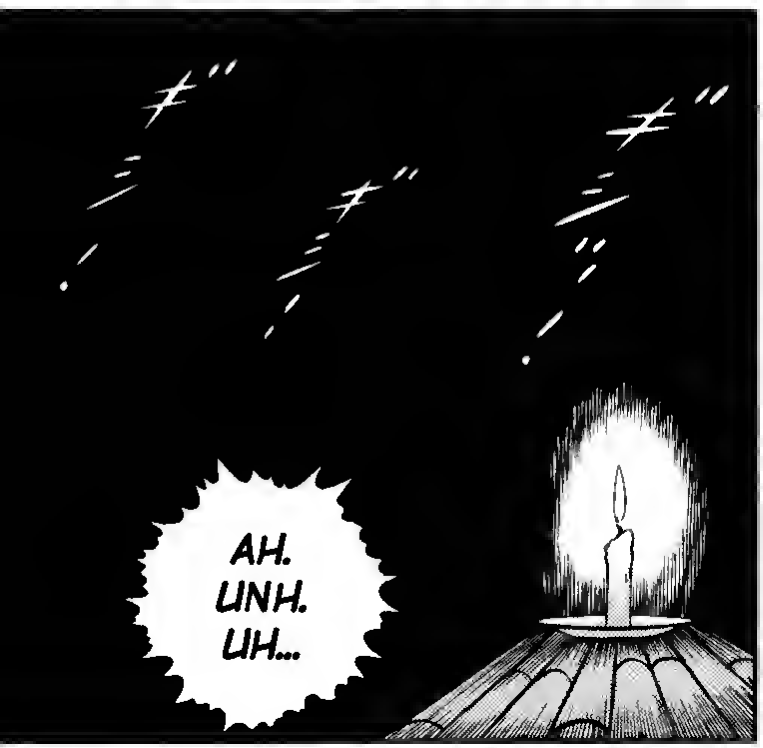
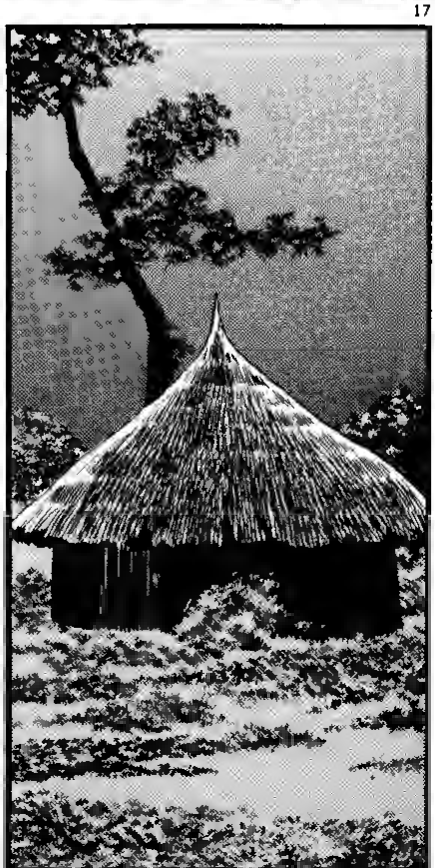
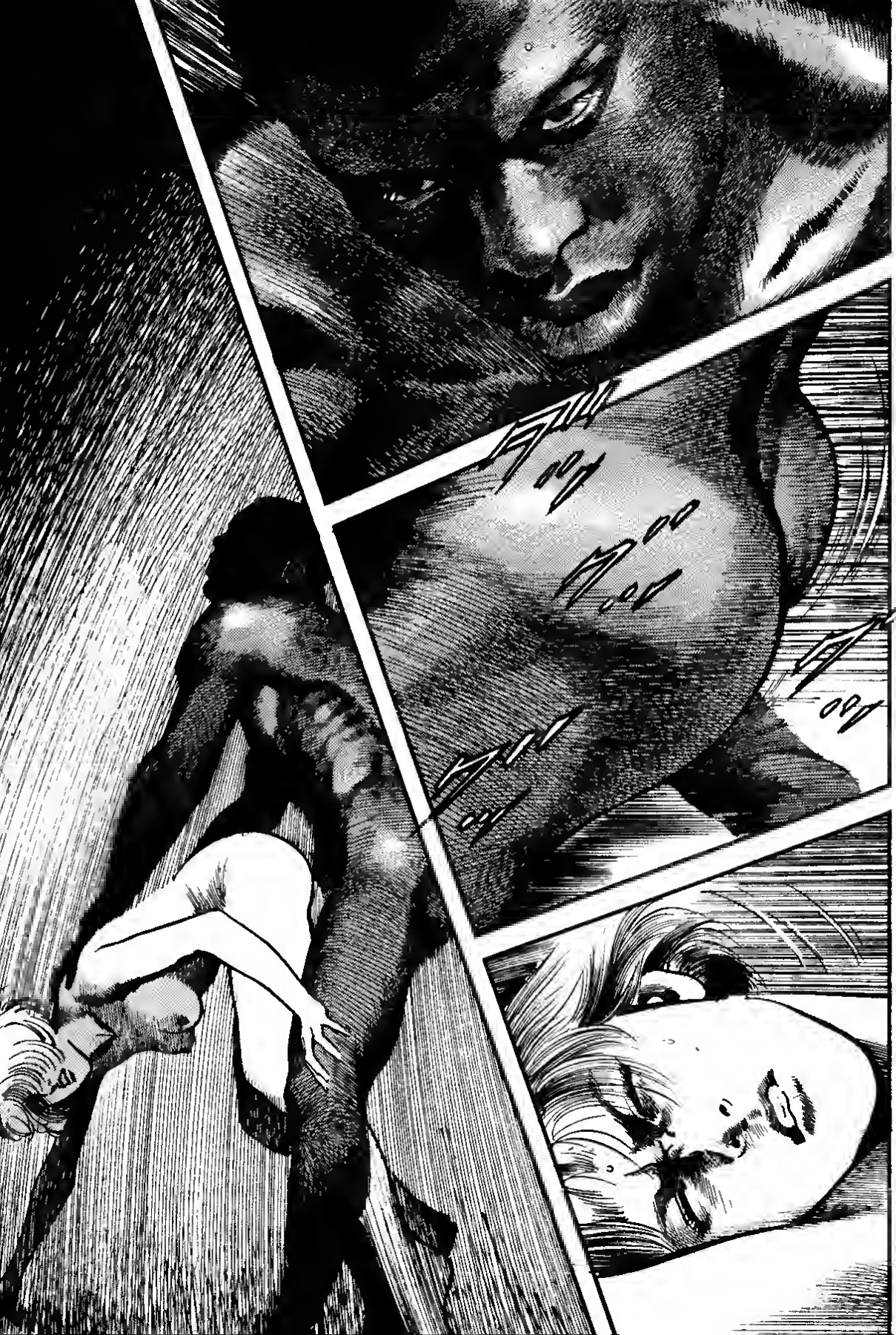




AH! UNH
UNH UNH...!



URGH!
グッ

...F-
FAURO...

...DON'T
LOOK
AT ME...

...WHAT A JOKE... HE SAID THEY'D GIVE US OVER TO THE GUERRILAS IF I DIDN'T DO WHAT HE TOLD ME TO...

UH.
UNH-UH...
...F-
FAURO...
THIS... WOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED TO YOU... IF I WERE STRONGER...